Vancouver metro

Your essential daily news | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2016 | High 19°C/Low 13°C Cloudy

Russian rocket headed for Canadian Arctic (for real) metroNEWS

A man sleeps on a bench at Oppenheimer Park, the site of a homeless camp, in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. METRO FILE

Pot shops take hit

CRACKDOWN

City issues injunctions — and is planning to issue more

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

The City of Vancouver has filed court injunctions to shut down 17 of 55 medical marijuana stores that have defied the city's April 29 deadline to close.

City staff have issued 246 by-law violation tickets, each worth $250, since the deadline. The 17 stores subject to the injunctions were chosen based on community feedback, the owners' response to enforcement, and their proximity to stores that have approved permits.

"These stores were targeted for the first round of injunctions because they had the most complaints," said Coun. Kerry Jang.

"They're also the ones who said they won't close — they are deliberately flouting our bylaws."

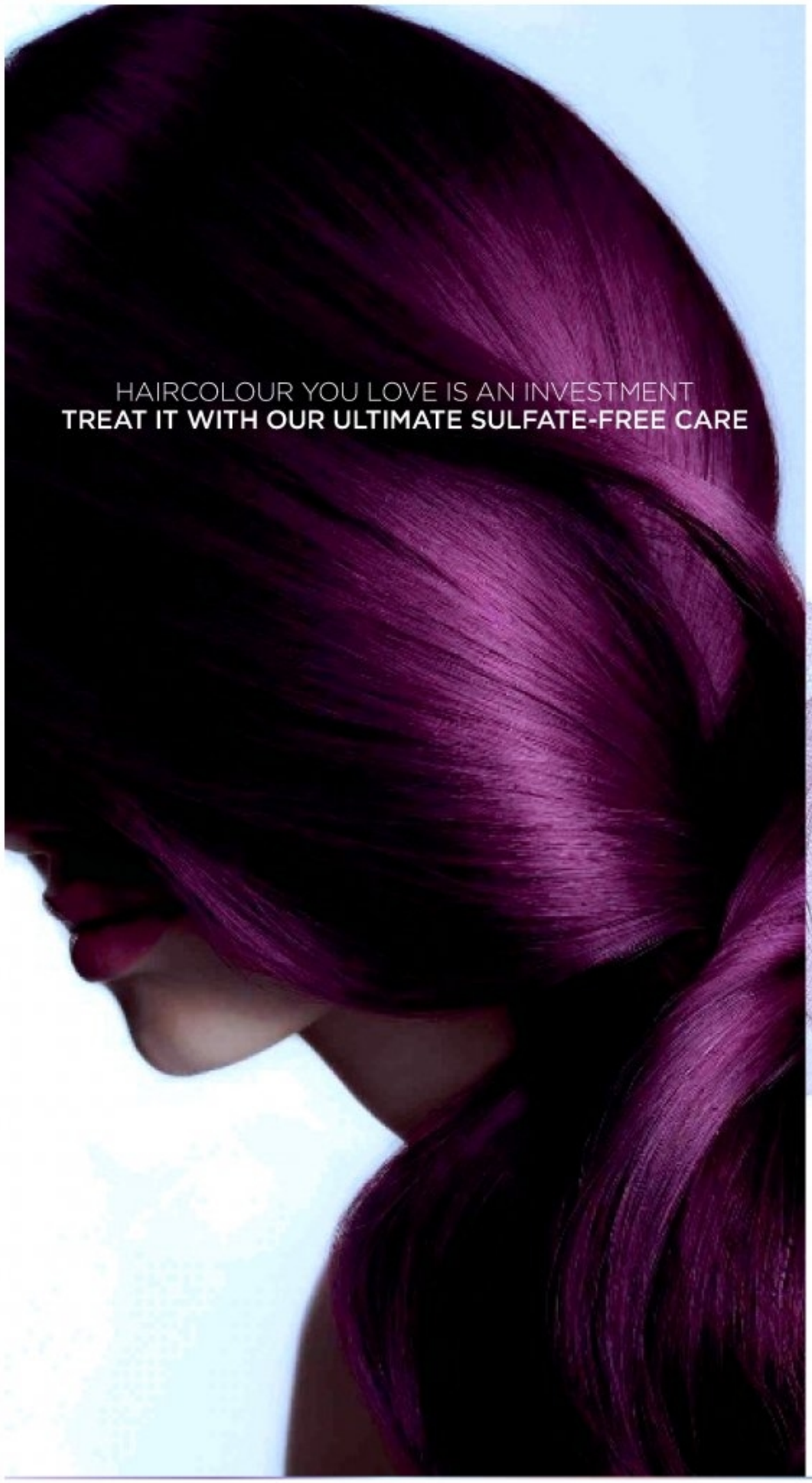
The city will issue another round of injunctions next week, Jang told Metro.

If a judge grants the injunctions, storeowners who refuse to close shop may face contempt of court charges. The city may also use bylaw officers or police officers to forcibly shut down the store.

"They want to be treated like any other business and that's how we're treating them," Jang said.

There are currently 21 medical marijuana stores operating in Vancouver (10 have been approved, another 11 are still under review) that are not subject to enforcement, according to the City.

TRUDEAU'S CABINET | Fisheries minister steps down due to 'addictions issues' | metroNEWS



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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Wednesday, June 1, 2016

ASSISTED DYING BILL HEADS TO SENATE
The bill on assisted dying has passed the House of Commons and is headed to the Senate. The bill is not expected to pass by Monday, the day the ban on assisted suicide is formally lifted. **CANADA**

Scientists to study shipwreck off coast of Vancouver Island

WORLD WAR II

Wreck may be U.S. merchant vessel sunk by torpedo attack

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

Historians believe they have located the wreck of a Second World War merchant vessel more than 70 years after it sunk off the coast of Vancouver Island.

If confirmed, the discovery could finally put to rest a decades-long mystery over whether sinking of the Coast Trader was the result of a torpedo attack by a Japanese submarine in Canadian waters or an internal explosion, as the Unites States Navy claimed at the time.

"It's very much a whodunit," said Ken Burton, executive director of the Vancouver Maritime Museum. "When it first happened, the military tried to cover it up and said it was basically a boiler explosion. There's always been a shroud of questions around this."

On Thursday, scientists with the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Ocean and the Ocean Exploration Trust are diving deep below the waters of the Strait of Juan de Fuca using a remotely operated vehicle to take a closer look at the wreck.

The dive, which will be live streamed, will be co-ordinated at the Ocean Exploration Command Centre in Rhode Island by a remote ashore team, including Vancouver Maritime Museum curator Duncan MacLeod.

The team will try to confirm if the vessel is that of the Coast Trader and whether there is evidence of torpedo damage on the wreck. They will also be assessing if oil is visibly leaking from the wreck, which has potential to be a pollution hazard having sunk within hours of departing port with a full load of fuel, said Burton.

The mystery of the Coast Trader begins June 7, 1942, when the freighter ship left Port Angeles, Wash., with a cargo of 1,250 tons of newsprint destined for San Francisco.

The ship didn't get far.

Roughly 56 kilometres southwest of Cape Flattery, the vessel sunk in only 40 minutes, causing the 36 surviving crew members, several of whom were badly injured, to abandon ship in the one remaining lifeboat and two rafts.

Despite three crewmembers reporting seeing the conning tower of a submarine as they clung to the lifeboat, Burton said the U.S. Navy claimed that an internal explosion caused the wreck.

"But that was for the war effort," he said. "They had to keep secrecy ... and try not to panic the population."

After the war was over, a review of Japanese naval files uncovered that the country's I-26 submarine reported conducting a torpedo attack on an unidentified merchant ship on the same date and location where the Coast Trader went down.

The specific location of the wreck, however, remained unknown until last summer when the Canadian Hydrographic Service came across a large, substantially intact wreck resting on the seabed, 138 meters below the surface.

If confirmed to be the Coast Trader, Burton said the discovery could "fundamentally change the script we have for the Second World War on this coast."

"We had always assumed that it was an American vessel sunk in American waters by a Japanese submarine ... but if we have an American vessel torpedoed by a Japanese sub in Canadian waters — that sort of makes you pay attention," he said.

"It really brings home how dangerous that time in our history was. We had enemy submarines prowling Canadian waters."

> "It really brings home how dangerous that time in our history was. We had enemy submarines prowling Canadian waters. Ken Burton, Vancouver Maritime Museum

The Coast Trader is seen at port on May 11, 1937, five years before it sunk off the coast of Vancouver Island. COURTESY SAN FRANCISCO MARITIME RESEARCH CENTER

CHECK IT OUT

A live feed of Thursday's dive will be streamed online at www.nautiluslive.org

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Plans for $6M park unveiled

CITY PLANNING

It's been over a decade since the last park was introduced

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

The Vancouver Park Board unveiled its plans Tuesday for a new $6 million downtown park that will replace a 0.8 acre parking lot the corner of Smithe and Richards Streets.

The 0.8-acre park will replace the existing parking lot and consist of a community long table, water fountain, and playground.

An overhead walkway will provide access to all three terraces at varying heights from the ground to accommodate the sloped terrain. Additional lighting and art installations will hang from overhead arches.

Construction is slated to start in spring 2017 and finish in fall 2018.

Sarah Kirby-Yung, chair of the Vancouver Park Board, unveils plans for a new 0.8-acre park at Smithe and Richards streets in downtown Vancouver. WANYEE LI/METRO

The last time a park was built in downtown Vancouver was 13 years ago, with the introduction of Emery Barnes Park in Yaletown.

But this park will look very different than any other green space in the city, said Sarah Kirby-Yung, chair of the Vancouver Park Board.

"(This) park provides the Park Board with the opportunity to forge a bold direction for a new park and a new style of park right in the heart of downtown," she said.

"A vibrant city is one where green space has as much value as office space."

> **"A vibrant city is one where green space has as much value as office space.**
>
> Sarah Kirby-Yung, Vancouver Park Board

Thousands of residents were consulted on the park's design and 80 per cent of those consulted supported the final concept, according to Kirby-Yung.

The park is a five-minute walk away for almost 30,000 nearby office workers and residents, she said.

Landscape architect Matthew Thomson from Dialog Design said his team of planners, architects, and sustainability consultants aimed to make the park a "memorable and unique place," comparing it to other popular Vancouver landmarks like Granville Island.

"In many ways, its not just a park — its one piece in the fabric of the city. It's a key piece," he said.

INVESTIGATION

Body found in Burnaby pool

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

A children's choir chaperone from Uganda has been identified as the man found dead in a Burnaby residential pool.

The body was discovered May 6 as someone at a family home was uncovering the property's swimming pool.

The B.C. Coroners' Service confirmed Tuesday that the body has been identified as Edward Luvuuma.

The 33-year-old is from Uganda and was visiting Burnaby to help chaperone a visiting children's choir from Africa, according to the coroner's statement. He was reported missing Nov. 13 .

Coroners believe Luvuuma died around the time he was reported missing.

It's not clear how he ended up in the covered pool. Coroners and RCMP continue to investigate the death but foul play is not suspected at this time.

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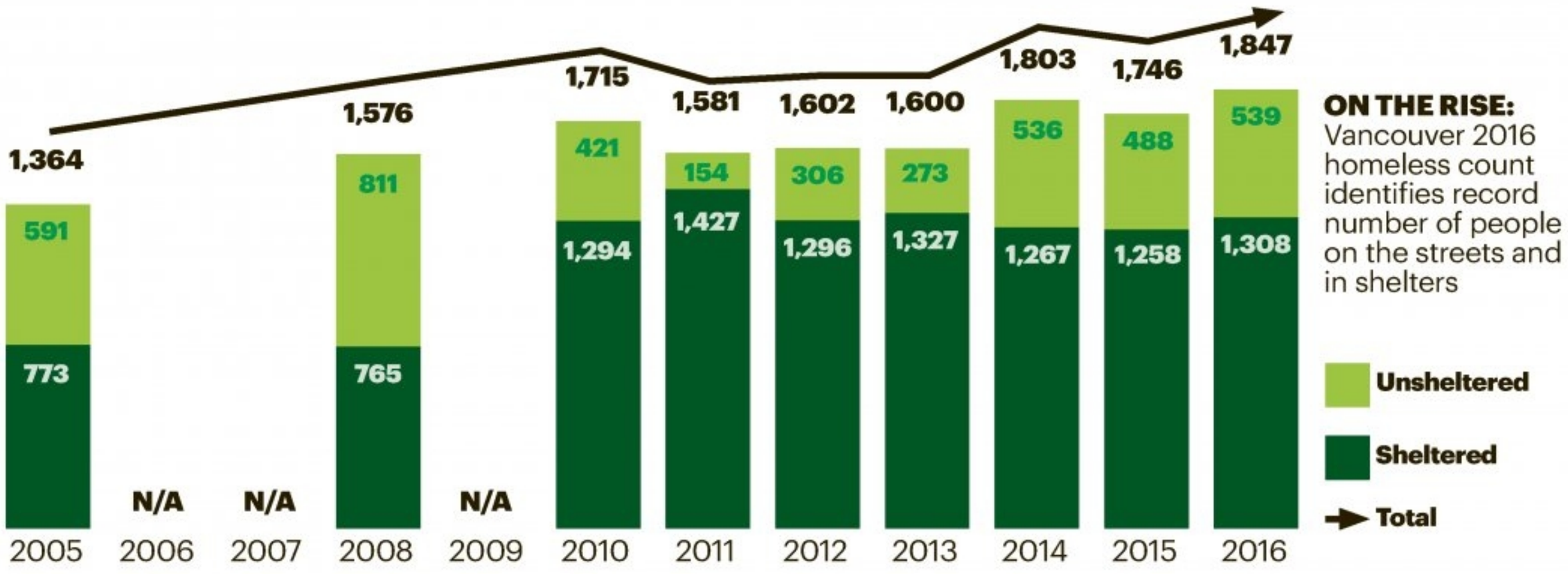


Homelessness at record levels

HOUSING

Count shows 1,847 people on the streets or in shelters

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

A record number of homeless people were identified in the City of Vancouver's most recent count.

The 2016 Homeless Count — a 24-hour snapshot conducted by 450 volunteers on March 9 — identified 1,847 people living either on the streets of Vancouver (539) or in its shelters (1,308).

That number represents 0.31 per cent of Vancouver's entire population and is the highest on record since the city started the count in 2005.

Mayor Gregor Robertson, who once ran on a platform to end homelessness by 2015, was under fire Tuesday for his failed campaign promise and called on federal and provincial governments to do more.

"We were in a homeless crisis in 2008, record levels of homelessness at that point, and I certainly made assumptions that the provincial and federal government would step up," said Robertson.

"I regret the fact that we weren't able to rally the B.C. and federal government to the levels needed to solve homelessness in Vancouver. I think it's a responsibility that we all need to take seriously and I'm not letting up on it."

Robertson said senior levels of government need to raise welfare rates and boost social supports for youth aging out of the foster care system.

Housing advocate Jean Swanson, with the Carnegie Community Action Project, said she wasn't surprised the number of homeless is up.

"More people are coming into our office seeking housing," she said.

"There's an absolute lack of affordable housing and people on welfare can't afford to pay rent."

Sixty-one per cent of those identified in the count have been homeless for less than a year.

Nearly a third of those living in shelters year-round are employed, according to the survey.

Despite the city and province's partnership in creating 1,500 units of supportive housing over the last few years, city council heard more than 2,300 people remain on the BC Housing waitlist.

The city has offered 20 sites throughout the city, valued at $250 million, to the provincial and federal governments for 3,500 units of affordable housing.

Non-Partisan Association Coun. Melissa De Genova said just building housing and, in its absence, pointing fingers at senior governments won't solve the problem.

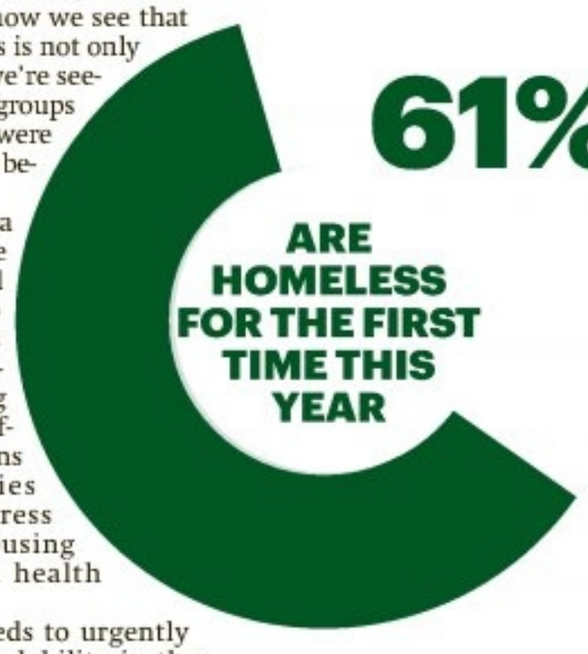
"I didn't agree with the mayor's promise (to end homelessness) because I didn't agree it was something that was realistic. But had we seen the numbers go down, at least I could have walked away from council today feeling that we are making a difference," she said.

"Instead, now we see that homelessness is not only up but that we're seeing different groups that perhaps were not identified before."

De Genova suggested the city should look into more grants and municipal funding for non-profit associations and agencies able to address people's housing and mental health needs.

It also needs to urgently address affordability in the city, she said.

1 IN 4
HOMELESS PEOPLE ARE WOMEN



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'It feels pretty much the same'

Though Mark Duroucher says it's been a bit weird being the only one driving down Fort McMurray's empty streets, the city finally feels like home again.

As some Fort McMurray residents re-enter the city to assess their homes on Wednesday, Duroucher has been at the forefront of restoring the community.

He said workers have diligently left trails of optimism for residents coming home for the first time, since flames forced them to leave on May 4.

"It feels pretty much the same — driving around you can't tell there was ever a natural disaster here," said Duroucher, who's a utility worker in town. "But a few neighbourhoods are hard to look at … It's something else."

Fort McMurray has come a long way — two weeks ago, the city looked like it was covered in a layer of dust, he explained.

"Everyone was wearing their masks. People weren't really sure and scared," Duroucher said. "The smoke put a different tinge on the city, where everything looked darker and you never enjoyed going outside."

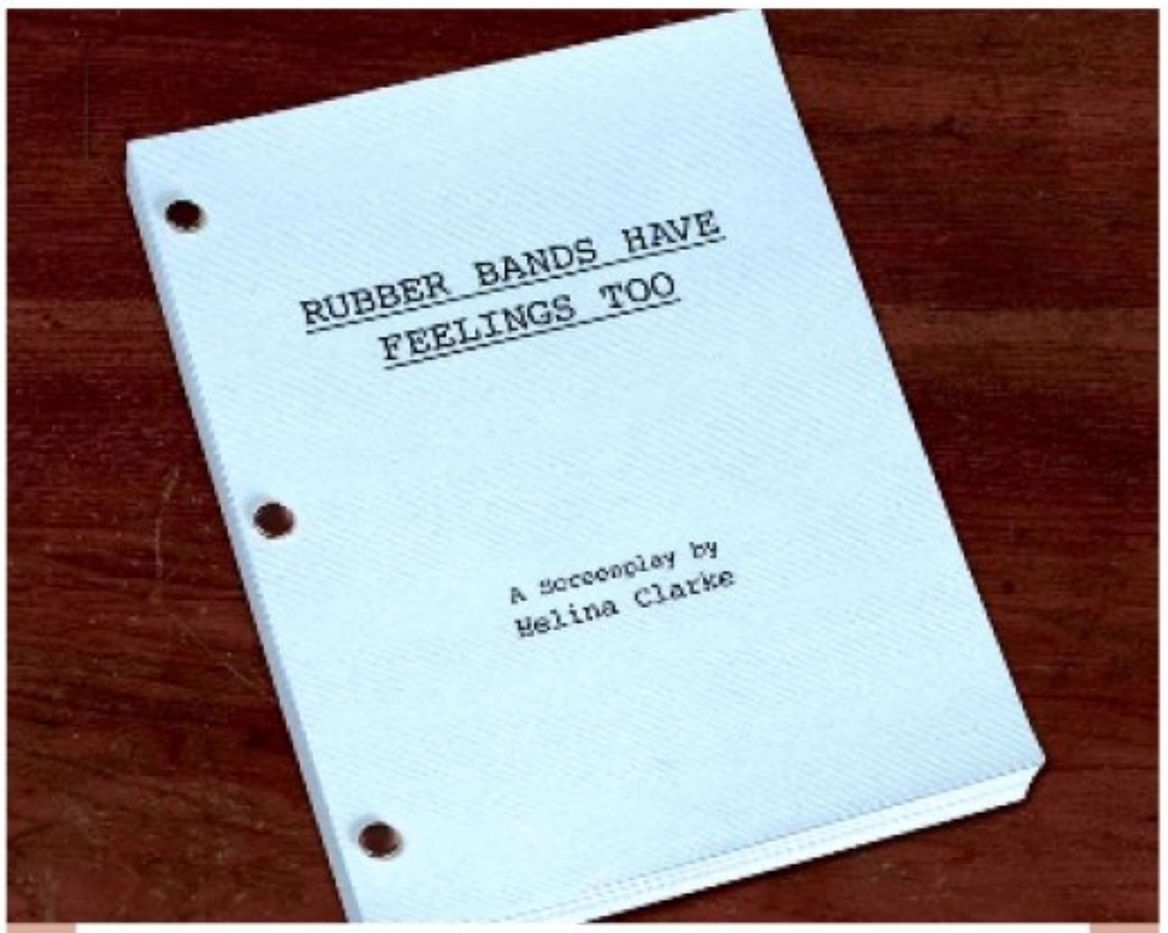
On top of ensuring essential services are available, crews have been cleaning streets, planting flower beds and installing five inspiring billboards, reading, 'Thank you for being resilient' and 'Together we will rebuild.'

This billboard is one of five that display inspiring messages for the people of Fort McMurray. COURTESY MARK DUROUCHER

"It's a lot better now," Duroucher said. "It's 18 degrees out, blue skies, it's sunny. I was just driving with my top off … it's just beautiful."

The province has set out phased re-entry plan, where all residents should be able to return to the city by Saturday on a volunteer basis. Duroucher said he's surprised to learn people could return so soon.

"I think that's because we have all of Canada and the world united behind us, combined with the efforts of everyone that's out here," he said. "There are homes levelled right to the ground, but then so many that are completely untouched. You can only attribute that to the very hard work of the firefighters and emergency personnel."



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Russell and Heather Thomas pack their belongings before setting off on the long ride back home to Fort McMurray, Alta. AARON CHATHA/METRO

Healing, heading home after fires

Return to FORT MAC

Couple plans to be among first to re-enter city

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Heather Thomas isn't sure how it will feel to see her still-standing house when she returns to Fort McMurray later this week.

"Things surprise you. Sometimes I'm fine … but I have other days where I cry and I get angry," Thomas said. "But it's okay, because that's part of the healing nature of going through a traumatic event."

Heather and her husband, Russell, said they feel lucky because their house in downtown was left unscathed. Still, going back comes with challenges. For one, it'll require the family to split up yet again.

The couple plans to be two of the first to return to the city as part of a phased re-entry for the more than 90,000 people who evacuated Fort McMurray in early May, which starts Wednesday.

But because of air quality concerns and the lack of supplies in the city, their two sons — one of whom has asthma — will stay back in Edmonton.

Heather will also head back south after retrieving her car, leaving Russell to get the house ready for the family's eventual return.

The family was first separated by the wildfire about one month ago: The morning of May 3 saw them on opposite sides of town — and as a result, forced to flee in opposite directions.

Russell, an artist, headed south that morning, to teach a painting workshop in Anzac.

"The sky was blue, the day looked perfect," he said.

Meanwhile, Heather welcomed a client at her home office in downtown Fort McMurray.

Her first indication of trouble was when her client's cellphone rang. And rang again. And rang a third time.

"So she checked her phone — and she leapt off the table and ran out of the house," Heather said.

That's when she looked outside and saw the huge clouds of smoke billowing over a hill.

Heather picked up her youngest son from school. Luckily, her oldest had stayed home sick that day, or would have been on the other side of the city.

Meanwhile, about 25 minutes away, Russell's painting students were getting ready to paint. When he heard evacuations had begun, he raced north, but it was too late.

"I hit the firewall that was just to the left of the highway … And the flames were hundreds of feet high," he said.

WILDFIRE

Premier Notley to greet evacuees

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley plans to be in Fort McMurray on Wednesday to help residents turn the page on a devastating wildfire and says she will carry with her vivid memories of the early days of the disaster.

Scenes of families in trucks and cars reduced to a crawl as they tried to escape through curtains of flame below a sky raining embers.

The tour of destroyed neighbourhoods reduced to grey expanses of soot. It was the small things that jumped out.

"You go to a place where there was a house and what do you see on the ground? Nails. Piles and piles of nails," said Notley.

It has been a month since a roaring wildfire raced through Fort McMurray and cut the city in two, forcing the entire population of more than 80,000 to flee.

Notley recalled the first day, May 3, was focused on getting people out and nothing more. Since then, For more than two weeks straight, Notley's attention was solely on the fire. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Minister leaves Liberal cabinet

POLITICS

Hunter Tootoo taking time 'to seek treatment for addiction'

Fisheries Minister Hunter Tootoo, citing "addiction issues," has resigned from the federal cabinet and is leaving the Liberal caucus.

Dominic LeBlanc, the government's House leader, will assume Tootoo's cabinet responsibilities.

A statement from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's office says Tootoo is "taking time to seek treatment for addiction issues."

Tootoo, the first northerner to take on the role of fisheries minister, issued a brief statement saying he was stepping down in order not to distract from the important work of his colleagues.

Tootoo said he has "decided to seek treatment for addiction issues" and asked for "privacy at this time."

The nature of his addiction was not specified.

The announcement about Tootoo's troubles drew words of support from former Ontario premier Bob Rae, who tweeted: "Wish him well in his battle."

And Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler also took to Twitter to offer support for Tootoo on behalf of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation in northern Ontario: "sending prayers and support to Hunter Tootoo as he seeks healing."

Tootoo was born in Rankin Inlet in 1963 and immediately had to fight for his life.

"I was medevaced (airlifted) out," Tootoo said in an interview last year. "I was in an incubator for the first three months of my life, so I am told."

After overcoming this struggle, Tootoo went on to live in various parts of Canada, including Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and Saskatchewan before making his way back to the North in the early 1990s.

The 52-year-old was first elected as the MLA for Iqaluit Centre in 1999, where he served for 14 years and was the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly until 2013. He also held a number of cabinet positions in the territorial government.

In November, a month after Tootoo defeated former Conservative cabinet minister Leona Aglukkaq to claim the federal riding of Nunavut, he said he hoped to transfer his political experience to a national scale.

"I think that it is going to be very beneficial to me as we move forward," he said,

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fisheries Minister Hunter Tootoo has resigned from the federal cabinet and the Liberal caucus, a statement from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Assisted suicide bill passes

The federal government's controversial bill on assisted dying sailed through the House of Commons on Tuesday, approved by a vote of 186-137.

"It's an historic day," Health Minister Jane Philpott said immediately following the vote, thanking MPs for passing a bill she said "will essentially transform end-of-life care options for Canadians."

Only four Liberal MPs — including Rob Oliphant, the chair of a special joint parliamentary committee that had recommended a much more permissive approach to assisted dying — voted against Bill C-14, as did most Conservatives, all New Democrat and Bloc Quebecois MPs and Green Leader Elizabeth May.

But the bill now heads into choppier waters in the Senate, where the government has less control over the agenda and many independent-minded senators are pushing for amendments.

It is virtually guaranteed the bill will not be passed by Monday, the day the ban on assisted dying is formally lifted in accordance with last year's landmark Supreme Court ruling.

"No, no, impossible," Sen. Claude Carignan, Conservative leader in the Senate.

Senators are not dragging their feet; they've agreed to extend their sitting hours and have taken the usual step of inviting Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould and Philpott to testify about the bill before the entire Senate on Wednesday.

However, they must still debate the bill at second reading, send it to committee to hear from some half a dozen witnesses, propose and consider possible amendments and debate and vote on the bill a final time.

Carignan said more than 40 Conservative senators want to speak during second reading debate alone and he expects "many amendments" will be proposed. Consequently, he said the bill can't be put to a final vote until the end of next week at the earliest, possibly sometime the following week. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Beverley McLachlin, chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, says any public consternation over physician-assisted dying can't be attributed to a lack of awareness. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

ENVIRONMENT

Toxic rocket on an arc to Arctic

Environmentalists are angry that a Russian rocket stage potentially carrying highly toxic chemicals is expected to splash down this weekend in a biodiversity hotspot in the Canadian Arctic.

"The idea of dropping a missile full of toxic chemicals in the Arctic waters off Baffin Island is just as preposterous as drilling for oil there," Greenpeace Arctic campaigner Alex Speers-Roesch said Tuesday.

"Dumping these chemicals from a ship would be a clear violation of international and Canadian law, and it is no more acceptable when it is dumped from the air."

An international aviation authority has issued a notice warning that debris from a Russian rocket launch is slated to fall Saturday into Baffin Bay. That's outside Canada's territorial waters but inside an economic zone the country partially controls.

The space debris is a stage from a rocket set off under Russia's Rokot program, a for-profit service that launches commercial satellites, said Michael Byers, a professor of international law and an Arctic expert at UBC.

Byers said Russia is following the rules by informing aviation authorities of the launch and the splashdown. The stage is falling over a remote stretch of water between Greenland and the southern tip of Ellesmere Island.

He notes Rokot uses repurposed Cold-War-era intercontinental ballistic missiles to launch satellites. Those missiles, the SS-19, use hydrazine for fuel.

HYDRAZINE

Hydrazine is known to be extremely toxic — so toxic that technicians working with it have to use pressurized hazmat suits.

The rocket stage is expected to come down in what is called the North Water Polynya, an 85,000-square-kilometre area of Arctic sea that naturally remains ice free year round.

The open water is a refuge for narwhal, beluga, walrus and bowhead whales. Its plankton-rich waters draw shoals of Arctic cod, providing food for an ecosystem that also supports seals, polar bears and millions of seabirds. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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A man and his daughter wait during a distribution of meals aboard the rescue ship Aquarius on May 25, a day after a massive rescue operation of migrants and refugees off the Libyan coast. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Migrant deaths on sea route growing

REFUGEE CRISIS

Estimated 880 dead this week a 'conservative' count: UN

The treacherous Mediterranean Sea crossing from Libya to Italy has claimed the lives of over 1,030 migrants in the last week, mostly as barely seaworthy smuggling boats foundered and sank despite calm seas and sunny skies, a migration agency said Tuesday, citing new accounts from survivors.

The staggering death toll foreshadows more disasters ahead in the next few months as the region gears up for its traditional summer-fall spike in human trafficking as the weather improves and the seas grow warmer. Aid officials said it also suggests that Libyan smuggling gangs are using even riskier tactics than before to profit from the torrent of those desperate to reach the safety or economic promise of Europe.

The jaw-dropping tally is only from shipwrecks that are known to authorities, who readily admit they simply do not know how many people are being cheated by smugglers, jammed into obviously unsuitable vessels and swallowed up by the vast waters of the southern Mediterranean.

Two Eritreans interviewed by The Associated Press — among the hundreds of shipwreck survivors brought to Italian ports — were haunted by the fact that so many women and children had been on their capsized boat and did not survive. They said they could still hear their cries.

"I started to cry when I saw the situation and when I found the ship without an engine. There were many women and children," said 21-year-old Filmon Selomon who plunged into the sea to save himself. "Water was coming in from everywhere."

UN refugee spokesman William Spindler told reporters at a news conference in Geneva that this year is already proving to be "particularly deadly" on the Mediterranean, with some 2,510 lives lost compared to 1,855 in the same time span a year ago.

The International Organization for Migration said Tuesday that 62 people were confirmed dead and another 971 were missing and presumed dead in nine separate deadly emergencies since May 25 on the Libya-to-Italy sea route.

The UN refugee agency said Tuesday it had tallied at least 880 deaths on the Mediterranean over the last week. Spindler noted such estimates are an inexact science, and said his agency's figures tend to be "conservative." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **There were many women and children.** Filmon Selomon

CINCINNATI ZOO

Police investigating gorilla incident

Police said Tuesday they were investigating the circumstances surrounding a three-year-old boy entering a gorilla's exhibit at the Cincinnati Zoo and the animal being shot to death to protect the child. A federal investigation is also planned.

A federal inspection less than two months ago found no problems with the zoo's Gorilla World exhibit, but earlier zoo inspections reported issues including the potential danger to the public from a March incident involving wandering polar bears.

Hamilton County Prosecutor Joe Deters' office said Cincinnati police are investigating what transpired with the death of the gorilla named Harambe on Saturday. Afterward, police will talk with prosecutors about whether charges are warranted, the office said.

Police said over the weekend that no charges were planned, but spokeswoman Tiffaney Hardy said Tuesday they are still gathering information.

Some critics have said the boy's parents should be charged with child endangering, while others want the zoo held responsible for the death of the 17-year-old gorilla. The boy was released from a hospital, and his family has said he's "doing just fine."

Tanya Espinosa, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said that it would be looking for any violations of the Animal Welfare Act. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Wednesday, June 1, 2016

TIM QUERENGESSER ON ALBERTA'S RECKONING

Today marks the onset of a perfect storm the NDP government must weather. How it chooses to do this will tell us a lot about the Alberta you think you know

When people begin returning to Fort McMurray today, the natural reaction might be to see is as the end of a dark chapter — the most difficult times falling behind us — and to be thankful that so much human suffering has been balanced by so little loss of life.

This is all true. Today does mark the beginning of the end of fear and adrenaline for the residents of Fort McMurray. And we should be thankful.

But today also marks the onset of a perfect storm the Alberta government must weather. And how it chooses to do this will tell us whether the Alberta you think you know can stay that way for long.

The background: In its most recent provincial budget, tabled about a month before the wildfires, the Alberta government noted its largest ever drop in the revenues from oil royalties, thanks, of course, to the tumbling price of oil.

The drop was staggering, falling from $7.2 billion in 2014-15 to just $989 million in 2016, and it forced Alberta to revise its own recently created spending cap to allow it to borrow more money.

To give you an idea just how dire this was before the fire arrived, Alberta had already projected it would have to be loaned some $57.6 billion by the 2018-19 fiscal year — and it was already using borrowed money to pay for basics like teachers' and doctors' wages. Rather unprecedented in a province of plenty.

How will Alberta manage perhaps its nastiest downturn ever, without doing something different than before?

And, to add insult, the province's credit rating had already been downgraded several times.

The strategy to face this was the standard Albertan refrain: We won't introduce what other provinces rely on, like sales taxes; we'll wait for the future, when oil prices will surely rebound. To this the NDP government added the idea of stimulus: Let's build infrastructure and bolster the economy with construction jobs. To that end it announced more than $7 billion for things like roads and bridges.

But in the aftermath of the Fort McMurray wildfires, which were disturbingly symbolic in attacking the centre of Alberta oil production, a reckoning on that strategy is inescapable.

In mid-May the Conference Board of Canada estimated the wildfire would cost Alberta at least $985 million in real GDP in 2016. But Marie-Christine Bernard, who helped prepare the study, pointed out that the report came before the wildfire turned around and attacked oilsands work camps, forcing some 9,000 to evacuate and delaying oil production yet again. Bernard said the updated report, due in about two weeks, will adjust its lost-GDP estimate upward.

We ran the numbers and it could be by as much as another $400 million — meaning Alberta is set for a hit in excess of $1 billion.

Which brings us to the perfect storm. The question facing Rachel Notley's NDP government is stark: How will Alberta manage perhaps the nastiest downturn it has ever encountered, compounded by the Fort McMurray wildfires, without doing something far different than before?

Consider: Big pots of money are being spent, right now, to pay for evacuations and to rebuild Fort McMurray while oil production has been stunted and the price of oil is forecast to hover around $40 a barrel through 2016, before possibly climbing into the $50 region by 2017. For context, in 2015, when oil fell to $60 a barrel from its highs of more than $100, alarm bells were already being rung. The clock on when it needs to rebound to rescue Alberta's long-standing status quo has almost definitely struck midnight.

The reflexive answer from the left that usually pops up in tough times is increasing taxes. The reflexive response to increasing taxes from the right is to cut spending.

Politically speaking, the Alberta government can't afford to do either.

In early 2015, a Mainstreet Technologies poll, published by the Calgary Herald in the days before the provincial election, found that just 15 per cent of Alberta respondents were in favour of increasing taxes to offset falling oil revenues. More than 40 per cent said spending should be cut instead. And just nine per cent said a sales tax would be the best solution. (Alberta is alone in provincial Canada in not having a sales tax.)

Meanwhile, who would propose the idea of cutting spending in a time like this? Rebuilding Fort McMurray is a must. Spending is without doubt set to increase for many years ahead.

And so, whether it wants to or not, the Alberta you may think you know from your perch in Toronto, Winnipeg, Halifax or Vancouver, is doubtlessly set to change.

Really, the fires have only begun.

The devastated neighbourhood of Abasand is shown in Fort McMurray. Thousands of evacuees are expected to return to the city today.
JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tim Querengesser is the managing editor of Metro Edmonton.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

Old guard of women's mags helping bring feminism into fashion

With only a tenuous tie to any concept of feminism, women's magazines have long been a safe haven for sexism, selling women an "idea of women" as supremely desirable, ornamental, domestic and rich.

That has made them like candy to me: an indulgence that's bad for my health. A flipbook of women I'll never be, but that some small part of me still aspires to: the sexiest, the most stylish. The perfect.

This tradition has not died, but it is being infiltrated, and even undermined.

Take Glamour magazine's series "Abortion in America: The Tipping Point," which promises to look at "what's next for activists on both sides" but features headlines that are clearly pro-choice. E.g., "I've Already Been 'Punished' For My Abortion," "Oklahoma Governor Sees Reasons, Vetoes Anti-Abortion Bill" and "Terrifying (and True) Facts About Violence Against Abortion Providers."

The Cut, ostensibly New York Magazine's lifestyle vertical, has lately been the home of feminist takes on everything from Rokudenashiko, the Japanese vagina artist, to how not to give women dating advice, to sexism in Hollywood. Refinery29, an online fashion/lifestyle magazine, was seemingly founded to serve hip young women willing to click on a #sexism link.

Then there's Cosmopolitan, which announced political coverage to great fanfare in 2014, a move that MSNBC attributed to "a high demand for conversations on women's political issues." Recently, Cosmo published a slam piece on Donald Trump's "'soft' misogyny" and a look at how Baylor University "Failed to Help Women Who Were Sexually Assaulted" with the subhead "This is a really big deal."

In Canada, Chatelaine has been shifting gears under editor-in-chief Lianne George, publishing feminist takes on Jian Ghomeshi (while shying away from the word "feminism"), a series of personal essays on women's relationships to their breasts, and regular dispatches on women's issues from columnist Rachel Giese. Even Flare magazine profiled the "Boss Babe" of Toronto's women-only taxi service DriveHer, amid stories of runway-inspired prom hair.

That doesn't mean women's mags aren't flogging the usual wares ("Get tight abs" "Wake up hotter!"). Nor that the whole package isn't still racialized (Caution: white women everywhere!) and classist.

But I do take heart in these small improvements. If Glamour cares this much about abortion (a fact that surprised me), that's clearly because it's listening to its readers. Branding yourself in line with the modern woman's identity requires adding a feminist spin.

I will take a side of "The gender pay gap sucks," then, with that slideshow of the season's best block heels, thank you very much.

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Wednesday, June 1, 2016

Poland's justice minister revived an effort to extradite Roman Polanski to the U.S., where he is wanted in a decades-old case involving sex with a minor.

GRAPE EXPECTATIONS

A PHONY WINE SAVANT SURROUNDED HIMSELF WITH SOCIETY'S ELITE AND EARNED MILLIONS AUCTIONING COUNTERFEIT VINTAGES. IT'S A WONDER THERE ISN'T MORE WINE FRAUD.

Burgundy's famous Domaine Ponsot vintages were at the centre of Rudy Kurniawan's (seen inset) wine fraud scandal. COURTESY SOUR GRAPES

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada

When one thinks of heist movies, they generally don't think of Beaujolais.

Then again, with most of us unable to truly tell the difference between an expensive sip of Burgundy from the Puligny-Montrachet region of France and a swig of cheap vino from New Jersey, it's a wonder there isn't more wine fraud.

In the new film Sour Grapes, filmmakers Jerry Rothwell and Reuben Atlas uncovered the story of Rudy Kurniawan — a phony wine savant who was able to surround himself with society's elite and earn millions auctioning counterfeit vintages.

"Wine has its own language, and it's a strange language because it's about putting taste into words," explained Rothwell. "There's good and bad wine and there's got to be some way to define that and it's into that gap where Rudy jumps — this thing that's hard to pin down, subjective and very much about the context."

Context is everything when discussing the high-end world of wine collecting. As the film shows, Kurniawan was able to mimic the rarest vintages by cracking into high society circles. Billionaire Bill Koch even purchased about $4 million worth of Kurniawan's stock — which the infamous financier eventually found to be bogus.

"It's just been commodified into this thing for which incredible amounts of money change hands," said Rothwell of the runaway wine market at the turn of the millennium, when Kurniawan's con was at its height.

"We both knew the film had to take a non-wine audience into this weird world of wine aficionados," said Rothwell of the movie's caper-like structure.

"As we started to realize Rudy was going to be the mysterious centre of the film rather than the narrative voice, it would become a film that was about being conned and about vulnerability."

Surely, there is some cathartic pleasure in watching millionaires fall prey to a seemingly harmless hustler. But even as both filmmakers stated their aim was to "hold a finger up to sommeliers telling you why you ordered wrong," they also discovered the world of wine collection is more than just snobbery.

"Wine is a legitimate art form and collectors even have legitimacy," said Atlas. "You may disagree with the money they spend (but) the more I learned about the wine world, the more I felt sympathetic to everybody."

The Essentials of Wine Investment

Wine is no longer just for drinking. With the world's most expensive vintages worth thousands of dollars, collectors are increasingly investing in rare bottles. Here are three essential tips for wine collectors:

• **Educate Yourself:** Only a small percentage of world's wine makes up the most marketable investments. While the wines of Bordeaux and Burgundy command the highest price, get to learn the value of all vintages.

• **Price Factors:** Do the work to learn what affects the value of vino — like age and maturation, supply and demand and the price of vintages themselves.

• **Storage:** Although ideal wine storage hovers around 13 degrees Celsius, it's also important to understand such conditions as air quality, humidity, corkage and how to rack your bottles.

WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE WINES

Domaine de la Romanee-Conti Romanee-Conti Grand Cru, Cote de Nuits, France
This blue-ribbon bottle has been called the perfect Burgundy and is considered the world's most sought after wine. **Average Price: $13,109**

Egon Mueller-Scharzhof Scharzhofberger Riesling
Mosel, Germany
Originating in a respected family-run vineyard, this intense German Riesling is increasing in popularity. **Average Price: $9,170**

Domaine Leflaive Montrachet Grand Cru, Cote de Beaune, France
This biodynamic wine from one of France's most famous estates has a growing cycle based on moon phases and the position of the planets. **Average Price: $5,835**

*For more information on wine investment, visit: www.wine-searcher.com (US prices according to wine-searcher.com) *prices last updated May 9*

ROSE REISMAN THE SAVVY EATER

THIS WEEK: Steak

A sizzling steak hot off the grill is a staple of summer eating, but the cut you pick makes all the difference to your heart and hips!

PICK THIS

New York Strip (12 oz)

Calories 570
Fat 34g
Saturated Fat 10g

SKIP THIS

Rib-Eye Steak (12 oz)

Calories 932
Fat 76g
Saturated Fat 30g

HERE'S WHY

Equivalent to eight Chicken Kaiser sandwiches from Swiss Chalet (white meat, no skin) in fat.

Who can't help but crave a juicy grilled steak when on the patio or at the cottage? The type of steak you pick isn't just a palate preference — choosing a leaner cut makes a world of difference when it comes to nutrition. The rib-eye might be considered a prestigious and delicious cut, but you're consuming close to half your daily calories and fat. The New York Strip steak is not only a more affordable cut, it also cuts your calories and total fat by half, and has a third of the saturated fat.

A food stylist's Instagram secrets

INTERVIEW

Making social media meals look good enough to eat

Amy Pataki
Torstar News Service

Jim Sturgess and David Schwimmer star in the new AMC restaurant drama Feed the Beast, premiering June 5. Above left: A rack of lamb with smoked eggplant, olive and gigante beans from the show. CONTRIBUTED

A lot of television cooking magic lies in the editing. So says American food stylist Susan Spungen (Julie & Julia). Spungen created the dishes on new TV drama Feed the Beast, in which two best friends try to turn their lives around by opening an upscale Greek restaurant. The series premieres June 5 on AMC. Tommy Moran (David Schwimmer) is the sommelier. Dion Patras (Jim Sturgess) is the chef. Food is also a major character. We talked to Spungen about how to make home cooking, as well as TV food, look appetizing.

We see Dion smashing garlic and hacking lamb shanks. Did Jim Sturgess know how to cook?
I'm not sure how much experience he has as a home cook, but he has spent a ton of time learning skills in cooking classes as we've been shooting, so he's improved a lot, but a lot can be done with editing, too!

Eggplant purée usually looks like grey mush. You used it with lamb.
Well, if used as a background for other things, it's a nice, blank canvas on which to build a plate.

For the last decade, chefs have been using tweezers, squeeze bottles and even liquid nitrogen to jazz up their plates. How can home cooks make their plates look good?
Well, that is just one very particular style, and it is not really representative of all chefs and all styles of cooking. Dion Patras is not a tweezer chef. I think it is best to make sure to cook food well, using good technique and make sure you have a lot of colour on the plate, which doesn't necessarily means a lot of different colours. A monochromatic plate can be beautiful. The colours should be considered before you decide what to cook.

What are your top three plating don'ts?
Don't plate too soon, especially sliced red meat. Don't use tweezers! And don't sprinkle parsley on the edge of the plate (so '80s).

Your Instagram is pure food porn. How can readers take a beautiful food photo?
I always look for an exciting food moment — and then I have to find some good light. When I'm home, I will move something around and shoot it in a couple of different locations to find the best light. Then I do a little tuning to make it pop more. Avoid artificial light if you can. And of course, colour and composition should be taken into consideration.

Also, only post it if you think it's pretty good. You don't have to post every picture you take.

PHOTO TIPS

Susan Spungen's tricks for drool-worthy digital pics

Get good light
Avoid artificial light if you can, and try snapping the plate from a few different angles for the best look.

Hold the parsley
It's so '80s!

Don't overindulge
Not every photo needs to go online.

ENTER TODAY FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

Wonderlist.ca

THE FOUR HORSEMEN, Jesse Eisenberg, Woody Harrelson, Dave Franco, Lizzy Caplan, return for a second mind-bending adventure, elevating the limits of stage illusion to new heights and taking them around the globe.

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A double pass to see an advance screening of Now You See Me 2 on Wednesday, June 8, 2016

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JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

An addictive antidote to life's uncertainties

THE SHOW: The Wendy Williams Show (CBS)
THE MOMENT: "Ask Wendy"

Audience members lob questions at afternoon talk show host Wendy Williams. "My new husband invited my ex-boyfriend to visit," a gay man says. "Should I be worried?"

"Yes," Wendy replies flatly.

A woman asks, "My boyfriend's daughter lives with him. How can I get her out?"

"When he gives you a ring and you set a date, your opinion will count," Wendy answers.

Another woman says, "My boyfriend and I took a break. During the break he slept with his ex. Now she's pregnant..."

Wendy cuts her off: "This is not worth your trouble. Move along."

I'd never seen this show before and I can't believe the speed and certitude with which Wendy dispenses advice. In fact I can't believe how quickly Wendy talks period: So many words said so authoritatively in so little time it's breathtaking, or rather not breathtaking, since she talks without taking any breaths at all.

Her guests are the same. Before "Ask Wendy," Williams interviewed fashion guru Andre Leon Talley. In two minutes, they covered a new fashion doc, Will Smith's children, what's out of style ("Over-decorated nails, rudeness, and women on the street at noon who are dressed for pole dancing").

If you're plagued by uncertainty, this show is the antidote. Watch Williams, and for a precious hour, live in a world without doubt, where good-looking people who have all the answers tell them to you quickly. She's cocaine in human form.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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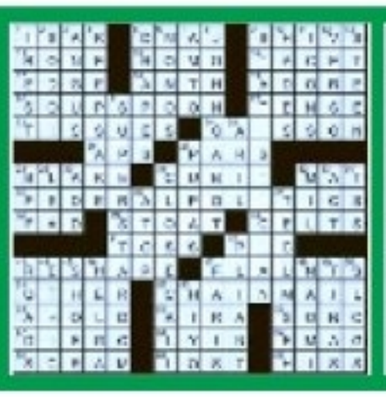

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4	7	6	3	5	2	9	8	1
3	5	2	8	9	1	4	7	6

metro WHEELS
Your essential daily news

Lowrider culture on display at Sante Fe exhibit

Nimble car, fantastic steering

VOLKSWAGEN CANADA

REVIEW

Golf R a truly great ride, manual or no

This is the first year the Golf R is available with an automatic transmission.

Driving a Volkswagen Golf R has always put you in a special club of "Save the Manuals" fanatics, so more than a couple enthusiasts melodramatically proclaimed that "this is the end" when VW announced that a six-speed DSG would become available in the hot hatch for the first time ever.

Fans liked the fact that this hot hatch used to be manual-only, because it felt like an exclusive club, but how does the R do with this new DSG? Is the hot hatch just as hot without three pedals?

The quick answer is that this six-speed DSG is probably the best dual clutch automatic transmission on the market right now, so any fears about an automatic neutering of the R and making it boring are completely unfounded.

The shifts are like rapid fire, and the DSG never gets confused and always seems to know what gear to be in. There's no weird shuddering at low speeds, and it's not shy about dropping down a gear to keep the engine in its sweet spot when you need more power. The automatic is just so good, it doesn't really take away from how fun the R feels and it will even get to to 96 km/h about 0.7 seconds faster than the manual can, even though the manual is 36 kilograms lighter.

Helping it hit those speeds is a 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder with 292 horsepower. That may not seem like much in a world of 700-hp Hellcats, but in practice, you'll never find yourself wanting more. Getting up to highway speeds or juking around traffic in town, the R feels so much faster than its numbers suggest. It's a nimble car with fantastic steering.

When you first get into the R, it can feel a lot like a GTI, maybe a bit stiffer and slightly quicker. But switching into Race mode changes the car's personality entirely.

One complaint about the R in its regular driving mode was that it was too quiet. Well, race mode has your back.

All of a sudden, the R puts its mean face on, it's faster, it's more responsive, and has a growly sound to match. It's loud enough to make you smile, but isn't so loud that you feel like a teenaged idiot with a fart can.

The R starts at just over $39,995, which is a bargain for a car with this type of poise and performance, but loaded up, those numbers can quickly creep up, making it one of the more pricey VWs.

All in all, the GTI has always been a great car, and the R makes it even better.

It's well-rounded, refined, fun, practical, and it's just as happy ripping through twisty roads as it is just going to the grocery store. And this is still true, even with an automatic transmission.

AUTOGUIDE.COM

THE CHECKLIST | 2016 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF R

THE BASICS

Engine: 2.0L turbo four-cylinder
Power: 292 hp
Transmission: Six-speed DSG (or Six-speed manual)
Fuel Economy (L/100 km): 10.4 city, 7.9 highway (DSG)
Price: Starts at $39,995, $43,410 as tested

LOVE IT
- Practical yet fun
- Very composed at all times
- Under the radar

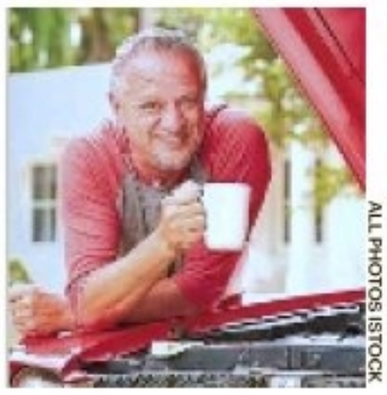
LEAVE IT
- GTI is already so good
- Expensive for a VW
- Very dark interior

3 THINGS THAT'LL WREAK HAVOC ON YOUR PAINT JOB

Cars are tough, but that colourful coating on the outside isn't as durable as you may think. Here's a quick list of what kind of things can screw up your paint. **AUTOGUIDE.COM**

1 Bugs

The sign of a true spring and summer road trip is to see some bug splatter on your car's windshield and bumper. Some of the acids in bugs can seriously eat away at your car's paint if left for too long. Acids found in the blood of insects can permanently damage your car, and need special attention. Most experts agree that lathering up the bug guts ASAP helps.



ALL PHOTOS ISTOCK

2 Drinks

Sometimes we leave our coffee or soda cups on the hood of our car while getting in. Take care not to spill that stuff, because there's some nasty, paint-eating stuff in both coffee and most soda. Coffee and cola are both acidic and both will damage and corrode your paint if left untreated.

3 Dust

Dust is very fine dirt and if one of your cheeky friends writes in it, they can seriously screw up and scratch your paint. Dust and pollen can leave scratches if you wipe it dry. A gentle car wash will help clear this dirt without damaging the paint, but if you do wipe it and leave a scratch you may need help from a detailer.

metro SPORTS

"I haven't even thought about it": Kevin Durant on his soon-to-be free agent status after the Thunder bowed out of the playoffs Tuesday night

Job up for grabs in backfield

LIONS

Johnson, Allen to take over after Harris left in free agency

Andrew Harris left a big hole in the backfield when he bolted the B.C. Lions for free agency this winter.

The move wasn't unexpected — the Winnipeg native expressed frustration after last season and wound up signing with the Blue Bombers — but his consistent production had to be replaced.

A couple of CFL veterans with something to prove are hungry to fill the void.

"This is an incredible opportunity," said Jeremiah Johnson. "My whole dream is to just be that guy, be that every down back to take my team to the highest level."

Open competitions for starting running back jobs are few and far between, so when Johnson and fellow free agent Anthony Allen saw what was unfolding in B.C., both jumped at the chance.

"My third year in the league and this is really my first time being able to come in and compete for a position that's not already taken by somebody," said Allen.

The pair signed contracts less than 24 hours apart in February and are the most likely candidates at Lions camp to fill the Harris vacancy.

"They're both excellent backs," said B.C. head coach and GM Wally Buono. "Both run the ball well between the tackles and are both also very good receivers."

1,039

Andrew Harris ran for 1,039 yards with eight TDs in 18 games played in 2015.

Johnson, 29, entered the league in 2014 after a couple of NFL stops, spending parts of two seasons with Ottawa where he rushed for 448 yards on 97 carries in 2015. Perhaps most impressive were his CFL-high nine rushing touchdowns in just 10 games before going down with a foot injury.

The Los Angeles native also impressed the Lions with a 100-yard, two-TD performance in the Redblacks' 31-18 win over B.C. in September. But he didn't leave the nation's capital on the best terms after sitting out Ottawa's Grey Cup loss to the Edmonton Eskimos despite claiming he was healthy enough to play.

Allen, meanwhile, rushed 169 times for 930 yards and five TDs with the Roughriders in 2014, but had to share duties with Jerome Messam last season, collecting 574 yards on 92 attempts to go along with three scores.

The 27-year-old won the Super Bowl with the Baltimore Ravens in 2013.

Allen and Johnson know they are in direct competition — Buono said keeping both will prove difficult — but that doesn't mean the players aren't working to make each other better.

"The team that usually wins is the one with the most camaraderie," said Allen.

"We just want to make it a fair battle. Everybody has the same amount of chips in and whoever performs the best on the field gets the position."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jeremiah Johnson, left, was dominant for stretches with Ottawa over the past two seasons.

BRENT JUST/GETTY IMAGES FILE

SOCCER

Fury set to make history vs. Caps

Regardless of whether they win or lose, the Ottawa Fury are about to make history.

Ottawa hosts the defending champion Vancouver Whitecaps of Major League Soccer on Wednesday night in the first leg of the Amway Canadian Championship semifinals.

It will mark the first time the Fury, last year's fall season winners in the North American Soccer League, will get to host a club from the higher-tier MLS.

"It's a step up in quality so you expect them to be better at everything than what we've faced so far this season," said Ottawa head coach Paul Dalglish.

The Fury advanced to the semifinals after defeating FC Edmonton 3-2 on aggregate in their two-match preliminary series earlier this month.

Vancouver will be without Kendall Waston and Christian Bolanos as well as striker Blas Perez, who will be representing their nations at the upcoming Copa America Centenario.

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RECIPE Israeli Couscous Pilaf

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Its worth the effort to look for this larger-grained variety of couscous, it gives this vegetarian pilaf heft and a great texture.

Ready in
Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 Tbsp of olive oil
- 1 cup, whole grain Israeli couscous
- 1 cup chicken or vegetable stock
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 cup chopped cucumber
- 1/2 cup chopped yellow pepper
- 1/2 cup chopped tomato
- 1/4 cup crumbled feta
- 1 small handful chopped mint
- 1 small handful chopped parsley
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/8 cup red wine vinegar
- 1 tsp Dijon
- 1 tsp honey
- salt and pepper

Directions

1. In a pot, bring olive oil to a medium heat. Add the onions and let soften and start to brown. Add the couscous and stir to cover in oil. Stir often and let the couscous absorb the oil for about three to five minutes.

2. Stir in stock and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and allow to simmer for about 15 minutes, until the couscous is al dente.

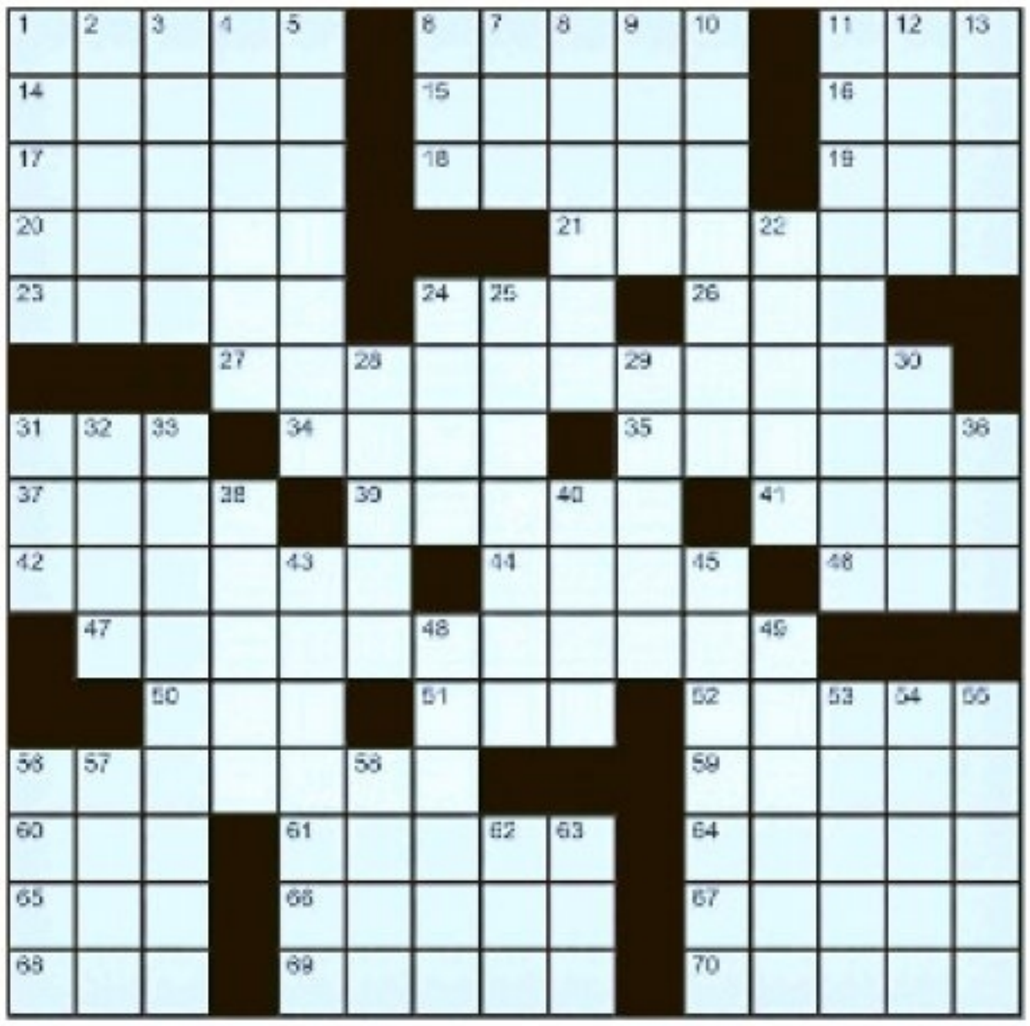
3. Toss together the chopped vegetables, feta, mint and parsley. Add the cooked couscous and stir together.

4. In a small bowl, whisk the olive oil, vinegar, Dijon, honey and salt and pepper. Serve at room temperature or chilled.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Bluff
6. "Born to Be Wild" enthusiast
11. "That's MY rawhide!"
14. Award, States-style
15. Duck
16. Canuck financial inst.
17. Lumberjack's tool, just one: 2 wds.
18. Works the bar
19. All-you-can-__
20. Property separator
21. Restaurant staff
23. Montgomery Clift's biopic title role in 1962
24. Spencer Davis Group's "__ Man"
26. Lair
27. Canada-USA crossing gig: 2 wds.
31. Kiev's land [abbr.]
34. __ 18 (WWII-set novel by Leon Uris)
35. Gasping-in-horror motion
37. Pinocchio-ed
39. Dance garb fabric
41. Hoisted, nautical-style
42. Open the documents marked CLASSIFIED
44. Camera lovers
46. Converged
47. Smoked meat deli in Montreal: 2 wds.
50. Eliminate
51. "Cabaret" (1972) actress ...her initials-sharers
52. Digs
56. __ of the Seas (World's largest cruise ship)
59. That place
60. Bart Simpson's grandfather
61. Empty environs
64. Enjoy the meal: 2 wds.
65. "The Voice" broadcaster
66. Boredom
67. Build buildings
68. Capture
69. Thesaurus compiler, Peter Mark __ (b.1779 - d.1869)
70. Wheezing noises

DOWN
1. Brit-style banter
2. Solo party planner
3. Absurd
4. Young animal in the forest: 2 wds.
5. "__! '90": George Michael's music video featuring supermodels including Canada's Linda Evangelista
6. Casino wager
7. 'Excess' ending
8. Amber __ (Co-host of BNN's innovative businesses show "The Disruptors" ...more at #54-Down)
9. Norse story
10. Slag or dreg
11. TV talk show's wait spot pre-interview: 2 wds.
12. "The Roy Rogers Show" setting, Double __ Ranch
13. Store returns proofs [abbr.]
22. Impart knowledge
24. Lazily
25. Saskatchewan village a half hour east of Saskatoon
28. Streamlets
29. Prefix to 'phone' (Antique record player)
30. Start the scuba-ing
31. Arctic knife
32. Variety
33. Rise up the Phoenix
36. Sanction
38. Casual-wear choice
40. NFL players in Los Angeles
43. Perth-__, New Brunswick
45. Not as blatant
48. Rita MacNeil's "__ on Your Own"
49. Super sandy site
53. Ward off
54. As per #8-Down ..."The Disruptors" co-host Mr. Croxon
55. Sevens, in Sherbrooke
56. "__ Ten" by Canadian singer Edwin
57. Superior at a French monastery
58. __!__! (Hair removal tool advertised on TV)
62. "__ South"
63. Be a portrait model

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Don't worry about spending a lot of time daydreaming today; it is what it is. Be clear in all your communications, because it's easy to be confused today.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This is a poor day for major expenditures or important financial decisions. It's also a poor day to shop for anything other than food or gas. Protect your wealth.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
It's normal to feel your energy is low today. Sleep in or take a nap if you can. Don't push yourself, because this is the kind of day to take it easy. Don't expect too much from others, either.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Secrets might come out today. If so, do not be quick to believe them. As Churchill once said, "There are a lot of lies going around, and some of them are true."

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
If you're involved with a group of people today, don't be pushy. People will change their mind a lot, because nobody is quite sure what they want. It happens.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
This is a poor day to ask bosses and authority figures for permission or approval. Nothing will turn out the way you think. Wait until tomorrow.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You long to escape somewhere today. You want to get away from all this. If dreams were horses, then beggars would ride.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Despite your interest in shared property, taxes and inheritances at the moment, this is a poor day to make decisions regarding these matters. Furthermore, don't believe everything you hear.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You have to compromise with others today. However, if people seem confused, do nothing. Tomorrow is a better day to act. Just coast today.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Don't be hard on yourself if you don't accomplish too much at work today. Some days are productive; some days are not. This is one of them.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is the perfect day to kick back and relax. Enjoy sports events, the arts and playful times with kids. Sneak away on a fun outing, if you can.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Postpone important family discussions until tomorrow. Family members, especially parents and authority figures are indecisive and possibly confusing.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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